



# City of Portland

Portland, Michigan

Minutes of the City Council Meeting

Held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025

In the City Council Chambers at City Hall

259 Kent St., Portland, MI 48875

Present: Mayor Barnes, Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck, Council Members Fitzsimmons, Johnston, and Sheehan; City Manager Dymczyk; City Clerk Miller; Police Chief Thomas; Police Officer McCrory; DDA Director ConnerWellman; Electric Superintendent Davlin

Guests: Paul LeBlanc of PLB Planning Group; Bernie Pelc of PLG Development; Jon Durell of Durell Law representing PLG Development; Sarah Sandborn, Erika Hoppes, Scott Lanz, and Melanie Pierce of Stepping It Up; Mike Judd; Kathy Parsons

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Barnes with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Johnston, to approve the proposed agenda as presented.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under Public Comment, Erika Hoppes and Sarah Sandborn of Stepping It Up presented information on their organization and goal of developing a community center at Bogue Flats through fundraising and grant opportunities.

Under City Manager Report, City Manager Dymczyk reported on recent and upcoming activities.

There were no presentations.

Under New Business, the Council considered Resolution 25-06 to approve the Generator Interconnection & Operating Agreement and the Facilities Agreement with Consumers Energy and approving payment of 50% of the interconnect fee, in the amount of \$142,500.00, for the Grant Street Substation Project. As part of the Grant Street Substation Project, Consumers Energy will construct interconnect facilities from their 46kV sub-transmission system to the new substation.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck confirmed the current substation located between the Electric Department and Fire Department will be removed in time.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 25-06 approving the Generator Interconnection & Operating Agreement and the Facilities Agreement with Consumers Energy and Approving Payment of the Interconnect Fee for the Grant Street Substation Project.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-07 to approve a Planned Unit Development (PUD) Concept Plan and accompanying narrative for Rindlehaven submitted by PLG Development at the 130-acre site on Cutler Road that would rezone the property from R2 to PUD to include residential and educational uses. The Planning Commission held the required public hearing in December of 2024 and staff held numerous meetings to evaluate the submittal, including preliminary site plan, and zoning ordinance requirements. The Planning Commission, at its January 8, 2025, meeting, reviewed and approved (with conditions) the revised plans and recommends City Council approve the PUD.

Bernie Pelc of PLG Development introduced himself and the project proposal. Jon Durell of Durrell Law and representing PLG Development provided information on the PUD Concept Plan for the Rindlehaven property.

There was discussion.

Paul LeBlanc of PLB Planning Group provided his recommendations and conditions for approval as approved by the Planning Commission.

Motion by Fitzsimmons, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 25-07 approving a Planned Unit Development Concept Plan and Accompanying Narrative for Rindlehaven with conditions.

Yeas: Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-08 to approve revisions to City Council Policy 95-2 concerning Poverty Exemption Guidelines.

Motion by Johnston, supported by Fitzsimmons, to approve Resolution 25-08 approving revisions to City Council Policy 95-2 concerning Poverty Exemption Guidelines.

Yeas: Johnston, Fitzsimmons, VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-09 to approve the renewal of the Portland Area Fire Authority Agreement for a period of ten years.

Motion by VanSlambrouck, supported by Sheehan, to approve Resolution 25-09 approving the renewal of the Portland Area Fire Authority Agreement for a period of ten years.

Yeas: VanSlambrouck, Sheehan, Fitzsimmons, Johnston, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

The Council considered Resolution 25-10 approving the budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for the Portland Area Fire Authority.

Motion by Sheehan, supported by Johnston, to approve Resolution 25-10 approving the budget for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 for the Portland Area Fire Authority.

Yeas: Sheehan, Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

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Motion by Johnston, supported by Sheehan, to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the Minutes and Synopsis from the Regular City Council Meeting held on February 3, 2025, and the City Council Goal Session held on February 4, 2025, payment of invoices in the amount of \$98,174.57 and payroll in the amount of \$177,935.71, for a total of \$276,110.28. There were no purchase orders over \$5,000.00.

Yeas: Johnston, Sheehan, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Under City Manager Comments, City Manager Dymczyk reminded residents there is no parking on City Streets from November 1<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup> in order to allow for safe removal of snow.

Under Council Member Comments, Council Member Johnston stated the PHS Drama Club will perform Anastasia at Portland High School on March 6-9, 2025.

Council Member Fitzsimmons stated that communities that clear snow with an odd/even parking plan often do not have any off-street parking.

Mayor Pro-Tem VanSlambrouck noted the VFW will host a Burger Night on Friday, February 21, 2025, from 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.

Motion by Johnston, supported by VanSlambrouck, to adjourn the regular meeting.

Yeas: Johnston, VanSlambrouck, Fitzsimmons, Sheehan, Barnes

Nays: None

Adopted

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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James E. Barnes, Mayor

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Monique I. Miller, City Clerk